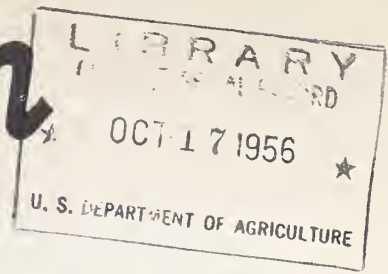


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CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 73

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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CANADIAN 1956 TOBACCO CROP
REVISED DOWNWARD

The estimated production of the 1956 Canadian flue-cured crop from the 115,000 acres grown this year has recently been reduced from 165 to 140 million pounds. Part of the reduction from earlier estimates is due to hail and frost damage, but most of the decline results from the fact that the cured leaf is thinner than normal. The excessive rainfall and cloudy weather late in the growing season has resulted in a fairly thin leaf that is somewhat lower in sugar content than usual. However, most of the pickings are of good color and texture. The current estimate of 140 million pounds is 22 million above the level of 1955 but well below the record production of 174 million pounds in 1954.

The allotted acreage of Burley for 1956 was increased to 6,377 acres or 20 percent more than the level of 1955; however, only, 4,513 acres were actually planted compared with 4,033 acres planted in 1955. Canada had planned to produce between 7 and 7.5 million pounds of Burley this year with most of the increase over previous levels to be in cigarette-type leaf. Actually, only about two-thirds of the allotted acreage was planted. A late spring freeze destroyed many of the plants and hail in late August destroyed some leaf in the Chatham and Harrow areas. While no recent estimate of 1956 production is available, the amount of leaf this year may be well below the 1955 level of 7.5 million pounds. About 10 percent of the crop appears to be cigarette-type leaf with the remainder being the heavy type.

Exports of Canadian flue-cured in the 1956-57 marketing year are now expected to be substantially less than anticipated earlier.

Canadian exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the first half of 1956 were only slightly over one-half the exceptionally high level of 40.7 million pounds shipped in the January-June 1955 period. Exports of flue-cured totaled only 19.5 million pounds as compared with 37.9 million pounds last year. Exports of the other tobaccos, except stems and cuttings, were substantially above the January-June 1955 levels.

The United Kingdom and Australia accounted for most of the decline, but shipments to the British Caribbean area and British Guiana were slightly above the first 6-months last year. Despite the over-all decline in total leaf exports, shipments of flue-cured, to Western Europe are increasing. European countries stepping-up their purchases of Canadian leaf include the Netherlands, Ireland, Western Germany, Belgium, Portugal, Sweden and Denmark. Flue-cured exports to the Netherlands, totaling 1.1 million pounds, were about 3 times larger than the first 6-months of 1955.

BRITISH COLONIAL CIGARETTE OUTPUT RISES

Cigarette output in British Colonial possessions continued its upward trend through 1955. Total production amounted to 13.5 million pounds in 1955 and was about 75 percent larger than the 1948-52 annual average of 7.7 million pounds. Uganda is the principal producer in the colonial possessions, but cigarette output in the other colonial possessions is also increasing at a significant rate.

BRITISH COLONIAL POSSESSIONS: Cigarette output during 1955, with comparisons

Colonial Possession	: 1948-52 : Average	: 1953	: 1954	: 1955
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds
Kenya.....	1/ 97	209	194	300
Uganda.....	4,738	6,098	6,459	6,733
Federation of Malaya.....	2/	3/ 1,559	3,349	3,009
Trinidad.....	1,270	1,402	1,479	1,601
British Guiana.....	1/ 551	602	617	619
Mauritius.....	1,039	1,177	1,155	1,268
Total.....	7,745	11,047	13,253	13,530

1/ Less than a 5-year average.

2/ Not available.

3/ July-December only.

Source: Digest of Colonial Statistics, No. 27, July-August 1956.

Increased cigarette production in the colonial possessions has reduced imports from the United Kingdom. The Federation of Malaya continues to be the principal colonial market for British cigarettes, but shipments to that market show a gradual decline. The other colonial possessions have stepped-up their takings of British cigarettes but these were insufficient to offset the reduced shipments to the Federation of Malaya.

NEW TOBACCO PROCESSING PLANT IN NIGERIA

The Emir of Zaria has reportedly opened a new tobacco processing plant in Zaria, Northern Nigeria, for the Nigerian Tobacco Co. Limited. This marks the completion of the first stage of the Nigerian Tobacco Company's projects in Zaria. Later, cool storage will be installed, designed to keep leaf tobacco in good condition without loss of color; and eventually a modern cigarette factory will be constructed on an adjoining site.

Two million pounds of tobacco grown in the Northern Region will be redried in the new plant this year. The plant will provide employment for more than 100 workers and gives a number of employee benefits.

TERRORISTS DESTROYING ALGERIAN TOBACCO

Algerian tobacco is reportedly being destroyed in the fields by terrorist activities, particularly in the Kabylie and Bone regions. The extent of the damage is unknown. Last April a warehouse and other installations of a tobacco cooperative at Camp-du-Marechal in the Kabylie were burned, destroying 1.1 million pounds of tobacco being cured with a total estimated damage of a half billion francs (U.S. \$1.4 million).

RENEWED FRENCH-BRAZILIAN TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

The Trade Agreement between France and Brazil was reportedly extended on August 23, 1956 for another year. The new agreement includes Brazilian tobacco as one of the items to be exported to the French monetary zone in exchange for French goods. Brazil's leaf tobacco exports to the French monetary zone during 1955 and 1954 totaled 9.4 and 8.3 million pounds, respectively.

SOVIET-INDONESIAN TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

A new Trade Agreement between Indonesia and the Soviet Union was reportedly signed on August 12, 1956. The agreement is valid for only 1-year period as of August 12, and will come into force after the usual exchange of notes between the two Governments. If the principals do not express their desire to terminate the agreement within 3 months after expiration the agreement will be automatically extended for another year.

There are no quotas in the new agreement. However, Indonesian tobacco is listed as one of the agricultural commodities to be exported in exchange mainly for Soviet industrial goods. In the past, there has been no reported exports of Indonesian tobacco to the Soviet Union.

RHODESIAN FEDERATION TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco from the Federation (Rhodesias and Nyasaland) in the first half of 1956 totaled 45.7 million pounds, 5.7 million pounds less than the comparable period of 1955, due mainly to reduced volume of sales in the earlier weeks on the Salisbury auctions. Exports of flue-cured totaled 39.8 million pounds as compared with 45.8 million pounds during the first 6-months last year. Shipments of dark fire-cured were .5 million pounds greater than the January-June 1955 level of 4.1 million pounds.

Consignments of all types of Rhodesian Federation tobacco to the United Kingdom, totaled 26.8 million pounds, 5.4 million pounds less than last year. Shipments to other commonwealth countries, except the Union of South Africa, Sierra Leone and Hong Kong, were also below the 1955 levels. Exports to non-commonwealth countries were 12 percent above the January-June 1955 level of 8.9 million pounds. Most of the increase occurred in larger exports to Benelux, Belgian Congo, Indonesia, Denmark, Egypt, Portugal and Federal Republic of Germany while Sweden, France, Finland, Norway and Switzerland reduced their takings of Federation leaf.

NEW PAKISTAN-HUNGARY TRADE AGREEMENT INCLUDES TOBACCO

A new Trade Agreement between Pakistan and Hungary was reportedly signed in Karachi on July 30, 1956. The new agreement is valid for 1 year and is automatically renewed annually unless notice of intent to terminate is filed by either party 3-months prior to the expiration date. The new agreement lists Pakistani tobacco (including Virginia type) as one of the items available for export in exchange for Hungarian industrial goods. In the past, there have been no reported shipments of Pakistani tobacco to Hungary.

U. S. WHEAT EXPORTS SHOW SHARP UPWARD TREND

United States wheat exports during the first 3 months of the current 1956-57 season are estimated at approximately 120 million bushels, compared with 70.0 million during the corresponding quarter a year ago. Official export figures are available only for July. The estimated 1956 August and September exports, 43.7 million and 35.0 million bushels respectively, are based on inspections for overseas export and do not include rail and truck movements to Canada and Mexico.

Combined exports of wheat and flour during 1955-56 amounted to 341 million bushels grain equivalent. It is still too early to estimate total exports for 1956-57. Bureau of the Census figures for July plus August inspections for overseas shipment indicate that the principal destinations of the exports during the first 2 months of the season were France, the Netherlands, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and Brazil in the order indicated.

United States Exports of Wheat and Flour During Stated Periods

Destination	July 1955			July 1956		
	Wheat	Flour <u>1/</u>	Total	Wheat	Flour <u>1/</u>	Total
(Thousands of bushels, grain equivalent)						
<u>Western Hemisphere</u>						
Central America.....	95	326	421	171	290	461
Cuba.....	146	156	302	377	205	582
British West Indies.....	-	241	241	-	262	262
Peru.....	1,325	25	1,350	26	31	57
Chile.....	37	-	37	1,268	1	1,269
Brazil.....	945	-	945	2,761	2/	2,761
Others.....	155	828	983	988	874	1,862
Total.....	2,703	1,576	4,279	5,591	1,663	7,254
<u>Europe</u>						
United Kingdom.....	1,233	252	1,485	3,035	225	3,260
Netherlands.....	2,553	337	2,890	2,452	43	2,495
Belgium-Luxembourg.....	355	3	358	1,872	1	1,873
France.....	-	-	-	8,791	-	8,791
West Germany.....	1,974	-	1,974	2,542	2/	2,542
Portugal.....	-	15	15	1,436	7	1,443
Yugoslavia.....	5,718	-	5,718	-	-	-
Others.....	510	164	674	2,311	44	2,355
Total.....	12,343	771	13,114	22,439	320	22,759
<u>Asia</u>						
Israel.....	1,066	1	1,067	534	2	536
India.....	-	2/	2/	1,828	2/	1,828
Korea.....	442	-	442	1,161	-	1,161
Japan.....	5,665	46	5,711	3,796	52	3,848
Others.....	468	774	1,242	888	1,285	2,173
Total.....	7,641	821	8,462	8,207	1,339	9,546
<u>Others</u>						
Africa.....	689	528	1,217	901	390	1,291
Oceania.....	-	-	-	-	4	4
Unspecified.....	-	14	14	-	20	20
Total.....	689	542	1,231	901	414	1,315
World total.....	23,376	3,710	27,086	37,138	3,736	40,874

1/ Wholly of United States wheat.

2/ Less than 500 bushels.

BRAZIL RENEWS RICE EXPORTS

Brazil in the first half of 1956 exported 69,269 metric tons of rice, its first rice exports of consequence since 1952. The principal countries of destination were Indonesia and Senegal, French West Africa. The trade reports that exports averaged about \$4.08 per 100 pounds, f.o.b., although a few of the final shipments sold as high as \$4.85 per 100 pounds.

BRAZIL: Rice (milled) exports, January-June 1956

County of destination	Medium- grain	Short- grain	Unspecified	Broken rice	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
Indonesia.....	46,296	0	6,600	0	52,896
Senegal.....	4,000	4,555	0	1,578	10,133
Netherlands.....	2,650	0	0	0	2,650
Guadeloupe.....	201	1,818	0	0	2,019
Others.....	1,567	0	4	0	1,571
Total.....	54,714	6,373	6,604	1,578	69,269

Source: Ministry of Finance.

The surplus for these exports was from the carry-over of the 1955 harvest (principally March-May). Export availabilities from the 1956 harvest are not anticipated, since there is expected to be a strong demand for rice in the southern areas of Brazil this year.

No official estimate has yet been made of the 1956 rice crop, although reports from Sao Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul indicate reductions of about 34 and 6 percent, respectively, from the preceding year. The Sao Paulo rice plantings were less than in the preceding season and unseasonable rains caused heavy losses to the crop.

IRAN HAS LARGE RICE CROP

Very timely summer rains in the Caspian area (northern) of Iran and a good supply of winter moisture have made an exceptionally good rice crop probable this season. Rainfall has been above normal. The Caspian area produces about 80 percent of Iran's rice crop.

Possible poor harvesting weather seems to be the only condition that might interfere with the production of a very large crop. In mid-September, harvesting had started on the earlier varieties and the later varieties were coming along fine. The time of harvest ranges over a 30 to 60-day period (mainly September-October), depending on the variety and time of planting. The quality of the several varieties grown are generally classified in 2 groups. The Sadri variety is a long-grain rice, much preferred in Iran. The Champa rice, which has a short grain and is a higher yielding rice per acre, is mostly exported.

IRELAND'S HOG NUMBERS DECLINE

Hog numbers in Ireland decreased 7 percent from June 1, 1955 to June 1, 1956, according to official sources. However, on June 1, 1956 the number of bred sows was 2 percent larger than a year earlier, indicating that the downward trend in hog numbers may be at an end.

The total number of hogs on farms June 1, 1956 was estimated at 741,900 head, including 81,477 sows for breeding.

This year hog slaughter in Ireland has dropped sharply from the high levels of 1954 and 1955. Exports of live hogs to England have been insignificant since May 1, when this trade was resumed for the first time in 20 years.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES CONTINUE TO RISE

Wool sales were held at Sydney and Geelong during the week ending September 14 with average prices 2 to 6 cents per pound higher than the previous week. Competition from the United Kingdom and the continent continued strong with increased buying by Japan and local mills.

The Australian press has noted the virtual absence of bids by the United States, and there is some speculation as to what will happen to prices in October-November when large offerings are scheduled.

Prices of medium grade wools have increased more in the first 3 weeks of sales than other grades. Fine wools of 70's have risen in price by 6.6 percent, 60's by 13 percent, and 50's by 7 percent. Compared to a year ago, the 70's were 23.7 percent higher, 60's 30 percent higher, and 50's 6 percent higher.

There are indications that labor difficulties will continue to be encountered in Queensland but the Government may be able to negotiate a settlement. The Government has agreed to exert its utmost efforts to insure that all wool sold will be loaded onto ships within the time period required by the sales contracts.

During the interim period wool buyers have agreed to attend sales in Brisbane October 1-5.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES

Wool Prices: Average raw wool costs, clean basis, on Australian auction floors, by quality classification.
(Current prices with comparisons)

Type and Grade	Week Ended			
	9-7-56	9-14-56	Year ago 9-16-55	
- - - - - U. S. DOLLARS PER POUND - - - - -				
<u>Combing Wools</u>				
70's Good.....	<u>1/</u> 1.55	1.57	<u>1/</u> 1.28	
Average.....	<u>1/</u> 1.49	1.51	1.19	
64's Good.....	1.41	1.44	1.08	
Average.....	1.37	1.40	1.04	
60's Good.....	1.26	1.28	.98	
Average.....	1.22	1.25	.93	
58's Good.....	1.12	1.14	.91	
Average.....	1.06	1.10	.89	
56's Good.....	<u>1/</u> .96	1.01	.88	
Average.....	<u>1/</u> .92	.98	.83	
50's Good.....	<u>1/</u> .82	.85	.80	
Average.....	<u>1/</u> .80	.82	.78	
<u>Carding Wools</u>				
Merino/.....	.85	.87	.68	
Comeback.....	.75	.75	.63	
Fine Crossbred.....	.67	.68	.62	
Medium Crossbred.....	.65	.66	.62	

Source: Wool Statistical Service Australian Wool Bureau.

1/ Nominal.

FRANCE MAY ALLOCATE ADDITIONAL
DOLLARS FOR LIVER IMPORTS

The French government is contemplating the allocation of an additional \$300,000 for the importation of pork livers from the United States. In June 1956 it allocated \$400,000 for imports of this product for delivery until March 31, 1957. Imports of liver by France during the first half of 1956 totaled 3.8 million pounds, compared with 2.7 million a year earlier. The United States supplied 1.3 million pounds during the first 6 months of 1956, compared with 1.5 million during the first 6 months of 1955.

Additional quantities of pork liver would be imported from the United States if the French government would grant the necessary import licenses. U. S. pork livers are preferred over those imported from Argentina, but a trade agreement between France and Argentina includes liver. Argentina shipped 1.3 million pounds to France in the first half of 1956.

High beef prices in France this year have caused some concern. During the first half of 1956 France increased its imports of fresh and frozen beef. Exports were about half as large as a year earlier. Demand for beef continued very strong and production was about the same as a year earlier. Imports of hind quarters of beef were authorized against the export of fore quarters. Most of the imports came from the Netherlands and Denmark.

Duties on imports of liver cattle and beef were suspended from April until the end of July. Dollars have not been available for the importation of beef.

Imports of fresh and frozen beef in the first half of 1956 totaled 1.2 million pounds, compared with only .2 million in the same period of 1955. On the other hand, exports of frozen beef in the first half of 1956 were 22 million pounds, compared with 48.5 million a year earlier.

France's imports of pork have dropped sharply this year and exports have increased reflecting the larger volume of hog slaughter. During the first half of 1956 imports of pork totaled .7 million pounds and exports also totaled around .7 million. During the first half of 1955 France was a relatively large net importer of pork. Imports totaled 45.3 million pounds and exports were only .2 million pounds.

In mid-year the livestock price support agency in France held around 40 million pounds of pork. Pork output is expected to continue large with price supports established for farmers equivalent to 24 to 25 U. S. cents per pound liveweight. A large barley crop has been harvested and feed supplies are plentiful. The price support agency did not take over any beef for price support purposes during the first half of 1956.

AUSTRALIAN'S EXPERIMENTING WITH CAPLESS WOOL PACK

During the last year wool experts in Australia have been experimenting with a new capless wool pack. This experiment is an outgrowth of investigations resulting from a critical level of jute supplies in that country. Recently, a meeting was held in Melbourne to discuss the results of last season's tests with the new type pack and determine future plans for its use. All of the important segments of the wool industry were represented.

Growers reported that those who used the capless pack were most enthusiastic about its advantages. However, a delay in printing and distributing instructions in the use of the new method, together with shortages of the special type steel pin required, were factors limiting the extent of the experiment. Some 3,652 bales with capless packs were tested during 1955-56 season.

Loss in bale weight and a loss in time of handling in store were major objections raised to the use of this type of pack. However, last season's tests proved conclusively that no weight loss results from the use of capless wool packs, while further tests are necessary to find a solution to the loss of time in handling. If this problem is solved it is believed that the new wool pack will come into universal use in Australia.

CHOLERA CUTBREAKS OCCUR IN IRELAND

Hog Cholera recently occurred in 3 counties in Ireland. Up to that time Ireland had been completely free of this disease since 1938. The disease was discovered in early August near Dublin and since has been observed on 48 farms. A number of cases of the disease have been confirmed in Waterford county and some in Kilkenny county.

An order of the Minister of Agriculture of September 10 requires owners to dispose of infected hogs. Failure to comply with the order will entail withholding part or all of the indemnity payments, which normally would be paid to the owners under the Diseases of Animal Act.

ARGENTINA AUTHORIZES LARGER EXPORTS OF CHILLED BEEF

Argentina recently authorized 24,000 tons of chilled beef for shipment to the United Kingdom during October. It is expected that shipments to the U. K. during the third quarter will reach 64,000 tons and that the January-September total will be around 200,000 tons. With the expectation of heavy shipments during November and December, exports for the full year may total around 270,000 tons. Exports of chilled beef to the United Kingdom during 1955 totaled 107,610 tons.

Shipments of chilled beef continue to be limited by a shortage of cold storage and shipping facilities, and not by the export allotments. Although chilled beef exports have been rising sharply, they are still below prewar levels.

The Meat Board also announced that controlled beef production in January-June 1956 in Argentina was 1,252,000 metric tons, or 23 percent greater than a year earlier. The Board estimated an increase of 11 percent in domestic beef consumption during the first half of 1956, or 863,000 tons from the controlled slaughter. The remainder of the increased beef output moved into export channels or is being held in storage.

U.S.S.R. AND JAPAN PURCHASE ARGENTINE WOOL

The first purchase of the Argentine 1956-57 wool clip was made by the U.S.S.R. and Japan in Corrientes Province at prices ranging from 67 to 76 cents per pound. The quantity of wool sold was between 3.3 and 4.4 million pounds. It is reported that the U.S.S.R. has a quota of \$2,628,900 in the Soviet-Argentine trade agreement which could be applied against these purchases.

FIRST SHIPMENT OF INDIAN WOOL UNDER INDO-SOVIET 1953 AGREEMENT

According to trade sources the first consignment of Indian wool has been exported to the U.S.S.R. under terms of the Indio-Soviet agreement of 1953. This shipment of some 1,700,000 pounds was moved from Bombay to the Black Sea port of Odessa in early September. Another shipment of nearly 1,000,000 pounds was scheduled for the latter part of September.

The Soviet Union entered the Indian market for purchases of raw wool earlier this year (see Foreign Crops and Markets, September 18, 1956).

FRENCH PRUNE CROP SHORT

The 1956 production of dried prunes in France is expected to amount to only 5,500 short tons, the smallest since 1952. This is only 60 percent as large as the 1955 crop now estimated at 9,200 tons. Average production (1949-53) is 8,700 tons.

This forecast, by the French Ministry of Agriculture, is somewhat higher than the trade's forecasts which range between 3,000 and 4,000 tons. The trade generally believes that French dried prunes this season will be of relatively small size, of only fair keeping quality, and not very satisfactory in sugar content.

Production of prunes, fresh basis, has been estimated at 16,500 tons for 1956 and 27,500 tons for 1955.

The French trade believes that imports of 6,000 tons will be required in 1956-57 to cover requirements. With Yugoslav supplies limited, there is a good opportunity for United States prunes to find a market in France this season provided the French Government makes dollars available.

The French prune trade organization at Villeneuve-sur-Lot has reportedly purchased 1,300 short tons of natural condition California dried prunes, sizes 22/33 to 77/88, packed in bags. This organization apparently purchases and imports foreign dried prunes in natural condition for the account of and distribution under a quota system to French packers and importers or dealers. Prune importers have attempted, without success, to import directly as in prewar days. French stocks, of prunes in packing houses and in the hands of the trade, are reportedly negligible, or non-existent.

BANANA EXPORTS FROM HONDURAS
INCREASES TO NORMAL LEVEL

Banana exports from Honduras reached 12.3 million stems (converted to 50-lb stems) for the first 8 months of 1956 as compared to 6.9 million stems exported during the corresponding period of 1955. Exports, as exemplified by this increase, are beginning to return to their normal level after sharp drops in late 1954 and the early part of 1955 caused by severe floods. Total banana exports from Honduras for 1956 are expected to approximate the normal level of 15.2 million stems. This is the average quantity which was exported in 1952 and 1953.

LARGER TURKISH PISTACHIO CROP INDICATED

The 1956 crop of pistachio nuts in Turkey is estimated at 9,500 short tons, unshelled basis. This is approximately 1,000 tons larger than the 1955 crop, estimated at 8,400 tons. The estimate of the 1956 crop is of a preliminary nature and subject to revision.

Exports of pistachio nuts in the 1955-56 season (September 1955-August 1956) totaled 1,390 tons, unshelled. The United States took this entire quantity. Stocks within Turkey were reportedly exhausted by July 1.

The Turkish Government is continuing its program to prevent the export of pistachios into Syria. The cooperative at Gaziantep is charged with the responsibility for purchasing and exporting pistachios again this year. The price paid the grower for the 1955 crop ranged from 295 to 320 kurus per kilogram (47.8 to 51.8 cents per pound, at the official rate of exchange). The Cooperative was authorized to pay as high as 64.8 cents per pound if necessary. The price at which the Cooperative will buy the 1956 crop is not yet known.

Commercial production of pistachio nuts is centered in the Province of Gaziantep on the Syrian border. However, it is possible to produce pistachios commercially in several other provinces where pistachios grow wild. Grafting of improved varieties on the wild stock has proven successful in Ankara Province and a few such trees are now producing commercially. It is estimated in Turkey that a pistachio tree, 10 to 15 years old, should normally produce 100 pounds of nuts.

LARGER TURKISH ALMOND CROP ESTIMATED

Preliminary estimates from Turkey point to a 1956 almond crop of 8,000 short tons, shelled. The 1955 and 1954 crops were estimated at 5,500 and 8,000 short tons respectively.

Turkish almond production has not been of significance in the international almond market, since nearly all of the crop goes into domestic consumption. Of the 1955 crop, for example, only 130 tons were exported. However, the Turkish Government is now making an effort to increase almond exports, which might result in 500 tons of the 1956 crop going into export channels.

INDIA LIFTS EXPORT DUTY ON LINSEED OIL

Indian linseed oil exports are no longer subject to export duty, according to an Indian Government announcement of September 21. The abolition of the duty of Rs 250 per long ton (2.3 cents per pound), originally imposed on April 11 to combat rising prices, (Foreign Crops and Markets, July 2, 1956), was effective as of the date of the announcement.

SUEZ CANAL SOYBEAN SHIPMENTS THROUGH JUNE UP 18 PERCENT

Northbound shipments of soybeans through the Suez Canal totaled 14.2 million bushels for the first 6 months of this year as compared with 12.0 million during the same period in 1955. June shipments at 2.2 million bushels were almost 40 percent higher than during the same month last year, and reportedly were entirely from China-Manchuria.

Peanut movements in the first half year also were up although the June total was only 7,700 short tons as compared with 33,100 tons in 1955. The 6-month total was 323,000 tons as compared with 244,000 tons last year.

The total northbound movement of oil-bearing materials through the Suez Canal was up nearly a third over the first half of 1955, while vegetable oil shipments at 334,000 tons were up about 5 percent.

FINLAND MOVES TO INCREASE DAIRY INCOME

In determining the source of increased agricultural income under the new Farm Income Law, which took effect September 1, 1956, the Finnish Government departed somewhat from the recommendations of the Farm Price Committee. The principal effect of the action of the Government was to transfer some of the increase in agricultural income from grain to milk.

Under the adjustment, about 54 percent of the increased income to Finland's farmers will come in the increase allowed in the price of milk and a higher subsidy per cow to cattle owners in North Finland. The increase in total annual income will approximate \$11.7 million. On the other hand, the increased income from grain will amount to an annual figure of \$8.7 million or about 42 percent of the total. This will be effected by an increase in the price of grain of approximately 1.4 cents per pound.

At the same time, the Government increased the prices of feed concentrates by a reduction in the subsidy. Furthermore, two-thirds of the producer subsidy on marketed milk was abolished as well as the entire subsidy on milk consumed on farms (see Foreign Crops and Markets, February 20, 1956). While the producer price increases for grains will be covered by Government funds, the reduction in the milk subsidies has resulted in a consumer price increase amounting to approximately 0.85 cent per quart for fluid milk and 1 cent a pound for cheese.

The Government's position on these adjustments is that they should result in a curtailment of milk production and an increase in grain output, particularly in south Finland, while encouraging dairy production in north Finland, which is less suited for the cultivation of bread grains.

FRANCE TO IMPORT
MORE BUTTER

Lower butter output in France during the second quarter of 1956 reflected the decreased milk production resulting from the delayed cold spring and poor pastures. Because of this decline in butter production which the French Government considered rather serious, it was decided to import approximately 13 million pounds during the months of August, September and October to be held in stock for stabilization purposes. So far, the Government has announced officially the importation of only 7 million pounds in this period to be supplied by the Netherlands and Finland (2.2 million pounds each), Denmark and Sweden (1.1 million pounds each) and the balance by Norway. During the second quarter of 1956, butter imports were 2.9 million pounds, of which 2.1 million pounds came from the United States.

BRITISH GUIANA TO EXPAND
MILK-PASTEURIZING PLANT

Milk production and distribution is prominent in the Development Program for 1956-60 being planned for British Guiana. The program is a continuation of the development programs undertaken in 1946.

The milk pasteurization plant recommended by the International Bank Mission to Guiana, as necessary to provide milk for human consumption and to spur improvement in dairying in the colony, is being erected in the vicinity of Georgetown. The plant machinery has been purchased and is being installed under the supervision of an expert who will also train operating personnel. It is expected that the plant will cost \$110,000 by the time it is in operation at the end of the year. However, the development program envisages additional expenditures of \$115,000 by 1960 to increase plant capacity.

U. S. S. R. REPORTS MILK
DELIVERIES UP IN UKRAINE

The Soviet press reports that state deliveries and purchases of milk in the Ukraine had more than met the annual goal by the end of August 1956.

The total deliveries at the end of August amounted to 7,130 million pounds, 2 percent above the goal set for the entire 12 months and 2,200 million pounds above deliveries for the comparable period in 1955.

It is expected that total state milk deliveries for the year will reach approximately 8,700 million pounds, about 25 percent over the goal for the year. The increased milk production from communal herds between the period from October 1, 1955, and September 1, 1956, had increased by 55 percent over the previous period.

CANADA'S TRADE IN DAIRY PRODUCTS, FIRST HALF OF 1956

During the first 6 months of 1956, Canadian dairy products were shipped to countries in all parts of the world. Exports of butter, evaporated milk and condensed milk were larger than for the corresponding period of 1955. Shipments of butter in the first 6 months of 1956 amounted to 2.1 million pounds of which 2.0 million pounds went to Eastern Germany. Evaporated milk exports totaled 3.0 million pounds, principal markets being the Bahamas, Haiti and Peru. Exports of condensed milk amounted to 900,000 lbs. approximately half of which was sold to Benezuela. That country was also the largest purchaser of dried whole milk, taking 4.4 million pounds of the 6.5 million pounds exported in the January-June period. Shipments of nonfat dry milk solids were 2.6 million pounds of which 1.2 million pounds went to India. The United Kingdom took 3.4 million pounds of the 3.7 million pounds of cheddar cheese exported from Canada in the first 6 months of 1956.

The only export item which the United States purchased in any quantity was 1.2 million pounds of casein; practically all of Canada's export in this period. The United States took only small amounts of other dairy products.

U.K. IMPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS SHOW INCREASE

Imports of all major dairy products into the United Kingdom during the first 7 months of 1956 were higher than in comparable 1955. Butter imports amounted to 495 million pounds (461 million pounds last year) and came mostly from New Zealand (207 million pounds), Australia (108 million pounds) and Denmark (130 million pounds). Imports from Finland were 16 million pounds compared with only 2,500 pounds a year ago.

Cheese imports increased from 175 million pounds to 183 million pounds of which approximately 68 percent was supplied by New Zealand. Shipments from both Australia and Canada were considerably below those of a year ago, while those from other countries, including 3.2 million pounds from the United States, were much higher than in the previous year.

Imports of dried milk in the January-July period of 1956 were 74 million pounds, an increase of 31 million pounds over comparable 1955. This increase is the result of larger supplies of dried whole milk from the Netherlands and Ireland, and of dried skim milk from New Zealand, Australia and Denmark.

FOREIGN RAISIN AND
CURRANT PRODUCTION UP

The 1956 commercial raisin crop abroad is forecast at 292,800 short tons, or about 24,000 tons more than the estimated 1955 production of 268,500 tons. Average production (1949-53) is 243,500 tons.

A record-large Turkish crop of 91,000 tons is forecast, or more than double last year's short crop of 44,000 tons. The indicated increase in Turkish production more than offsets a decrease of nearly 25,000 tons in the Australian crop which was badly damaged by rain at drying time early this year. The quality of the new-crop Turkish sultanas is reportedly good. The Greek crop, estimated at 51,000 tons, is slightly smaller than last year. Extremely hot weather during the summer in Greece reduced the previous estimates of a bumper crop.

The foreign currant crop this year is expected to be considerably larger than last year when Greece suffered a short crop. Greek production, which dominates world currant output, is indicated at 88,000 tons for 1956, or 25,000 tons more than in 1955. The 1956 crop is of about average size.

RAISINS: Estimated commercial production in
specified countries, average 1949-53, annual 1952-56

Country	Average 1949-53	1952	1953	1954	1955	Indicated 1956
Short tons						
Australia						
Lexias.....	6,900:	6,800:	12,600:	15,600:	10,700:	7,800
Sultanas.....	52,000:	58,300:	78,100:	69,900:	66,700:	44,800
Cyprus.....	6,200:	5,300:	7,200:	5,500:	1/6,200:	1/ 6,200
Greece.....	38,100:	38,000:	50,000:	47,500:	52,500:	51,000
Iran.....	45,900:	50,000:	54,000:	55,000:	66,000:	68,000
Spain.....	11,700:	11,000:	15,000:	11,000:	13,000:	16,500
Turkey.....	74,000:	72,000:	77,000:	72,000:	44,000:	91,000
Union of South Africa....	8,700:	8,900:	9,800:	10,700:	9,400:	2/ 7,500
Foreign total.....	243,500:	250,300:	303,700:	287,200:	268,500:	292,800
United States.....	235,400:	287,800:	232,000:	168,000:	224,000:	---
Grand total.....	478,900:	538,100:	535,700:	455,200:	492,500:	---

1/ Estimates not available; 1949-53 average used for foreign total.

2/ Estimate not available; provisional figure used for foreign total.

CURRANTS: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, average 1949-53, annual 1952-56

Country	Average: 1949-53	1952	1953	1954	1955	Indicated 1956
	:	:	:	:	:	:
	:	:	- - -	Short tons	- - -	:
Australia.....	16,400	12,300	18,800	14,900	12,200	15,500
Greece.....	89,600	86,000	85,000	82,000	63,000	88,000
Union of South Africa.....	1,000	800	1,100	1,000	1,000	1/ 1,000
Total.....	107,000	99,100	104,900	98,000	76,200	104,500

1/ No estimate available; 1949-53 average used for foreign total.

Raisin exports by the major Mediterranean exporting countries -- Turkey, Greece, and Iran -- totaled 124,000 short tons in the 1954-55 season. In 1955-56, it is estimated that only 111,000 tons were exported by these 3 countries, with the decline in Turkish exports more than offsetting increased exports by Iran and Greece. Based on preliminary indications, exports in the 1956-57 season by the same 3 countries may total about 145,000 tons, or nearly 35,000 tons more than last season. These increased exports, it should be noted, are coming at a time when raisin stocks all over the world are at low levels and also follow a disastrous Australian export season when Australian raisin exports decreased sharply due to the short crop.

The Turkish Government has published the minimum prices at which Sultanas may be exported to countries of the European Payments Union. These are as follows, f.o.b., net Izmir, per short ton:

No. 7 grade.....	\$246	No. 9 grade.....	\$262
No. 8 grade.....	\$253	No. 10 grade.....	\$279
No. 11 grade.....	\$292		

The Turkish Government has also announced the following export subsidies to apply to Sultanas in the 1956-57 season for grades No. 7, 8, and 9:

- 4.86 cents per pound for sales to EPU, dollar, and sterling countries.
- 2.43 cents per pound for sales to clearing agreement countries.
- 0.49 cents per pound additional subsidy for Sultanas completely free of foreign matter (no tolerance).
- 10 percent additional subsidy for each grade above No. 9.

For the first time, the Turkish Government has set grower support prices for Sultanas. If prices fall below the equivalent of \$292 per short ton for No. 9 grade at the Izmir Bourse, the Cooperative Union will step in and buy Sultanas at that price. (Dollar equivalents have been obtained by converting at the official rate of exchange of 280 kurus per dollar).

Turkish prices in mid-September were slightly above the minimum level.

It is reported from Turkey that during the first 4 weeks of operations on the Izmir Bourse, beginning August 20, sales amounted to 19,000 short tons of which 11,000 were for export with the United Kingdom by far the largest buyer.

Greek raisins of No. 4 grade (average quality) processed and ready for export have been priced recently at \$269 per short ton f.o.b. Greek port. By way of comparison, the 1955 season opened at \$220 and rose to \$272 in January. The Greek Government, through the Cooperative, has set a "security price" of 9.9 to 10.0 cents per pound to growers for No. 4 raisins. This price is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound above the price offered by the Cooperative a year ago.

BEANS DAMAGED IN BELGIUM AND PORTUGAL

The abnormally cloudy wet weather in the northern portion of Western Europe has damaged the quality and probably will reduce the quantity of dry beans in Belgium where production totals only about 30,000 bags per year. Both wet weather and frosts have damaged the dry bean crop in Portugal, where production is normally about 750,000 bags. There is no report at this time of the extent of damage in either country.

INDIA BECOMES NET COTTON EXPORTER IN 1955-56

India's cotton exports of 504,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in August-May 1955-56 exceeded imports of 427,000 bales in the same period, the first time since partition in August 1947 that India has been a net exporter of cotton.

Exports in the current period were more than 3 times the 155,000 bales exported in August-May 1954-55. Heavy exports to Japan, amounting to about half of the 1955-56 volume, as well as large quantities to the United Kingdom and other Western European countries, China, and Hong Kong accounted for the increase. The heavy export volume last year was made possible by a large 1954-55 crop and a small export total in that year resulting in a heavy surplus of short staple cotton for export in 1955-56. The supply available for export in 1956-57 is likely to be down considerably due to a short crop in 1955-56 and low stocks at the beginning of the current season.

Quantities exported to the major destinations during August-May 1955-56, with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were as follows (the breakdown of exports to China and Hong Kong is not available): Japan 254,000 bales (70,000); the United Kingdom 57,000 (24,000); Belgium 35,000 (9,000); Italy 24,000 (4,000); the Netherlands 13,000 (8,000); France 11,000 (10,000); Western Germany 8,000 (8,000); and the United States 3,000 (14,000). India's export quota for the 1955-56 year, mostly of varieties stapling 3/4 inch and shorter, was equivalent to 568,000 bales of 500 pounds.

India's cotton imports are primarily of the extra-long staple varieties from Egypt and Sudan and medium to long staple from East Africa and the United States. Total imports of 427,000 bales during August-May 1955-56 were 14 percent higher than imports of 373,000 bales in the similar period of 1954-55. This is attributed to a steadily rising mill demand and a short 1955-56 crop. Quantities imported from principal sources in August-May 1955-56 with comparable 1954-55 figures in parentheses were: Egypt 176,000 bales (105,000); Uganda and Kenya 137,000 (130,000); the Sudan 89,000 (30,000); the United States 6,000 (85,000); and Tanganyika 5,000 (14,000).

Preliminary estimates of India's 1956-57 cotton production (harvest begins December 1956) are for a crop of approximately 4,200,000 bales from an area of about 20,000,000 acres. Late reports of excessive rains, however, may subsequently result in a lower estimate. The 1955-56 production of 3,800,000 bales represented a sharp decline from production of 4,400,000 bales in 1954-55, in spite of the 1955-56 acreage increase to 20,230,000 acres from the 18,684,000 acres harvested in 1954-55. The decline in 1955-56 production was attributed to unusually heavy damage from insect infestation and adverse weather conditions.

Cotton consumption in India is increasing steadily. Mill consumption has increased 38 percent in the last 5 years, from 2,923,000 bales in 1950-51 to an estimated 4,040,000 bales in 1955-56. A marked trend in increased consumption of Indian cotton and decreased use of foreign cotton has also been evident, as shown in the table below. Non-mill cotton consumption in India is estimated at approximately 220,000 additional bales processed annually in homes and small cottage industries.

INDIA: Mill consumption of domestic and foreign cotton,
1950-51 to 1955-56

Crop year beginning August 1	Consumption			Percent domestic to total
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	
	cotton	growths		
	1,000 bales			
1950.....	2,030	893	2,923	69
1951.....	2,400	887	3,287	73
1952.....	2,923	777	3,700	79
1953.....	3,159	593	3,752	84
1954.....	3,353	531	3,884	86
1955.....	3,554	486	4,040	88

India's cotton stocks on August 1, 1956, were estimated at approximately 1,875,000 bales, down 21 percent from the 2,370,000 bales held a year earlier. Stocks of United States cotton held by mills were estimated at only 4,900 bales on August 1, 1956, as compared with 17,500 bales held a year earlier.

Cotton prices in India followed an upward trend throughout most of the year except for a minor setback early in 1956, as shown in the following table:

INDIA: Spot cotton quotations in Bombay, October 1955 to
September 1956 1/

(U. S. cents a pound)					
Date	Jarila, Fine, 13/16 inch	Vijay, Fine, 13/16 inch	Bengal, Fine	Export tax	
1955:					
October 20.....	17.74	23.61	15.34	2.67	
November 17.....	19.80	23.95	15.39	2.68	
December 15.....	21.11	23.71	16.61	2.68	
1956:					
January 18.....	20.65	23.86	16.50	2.68	
February 17.....	20.51	23.35	17.02	2.68	
March 15.....	20.50	24.52	17.29	2.68	
April 16.....	20.78	24.93	17.16	2.68	
May 17.....	21.60	25.36	17.31	2.68	
June 21.....	21.81	25.29	17.13	2.68	
July 20.....	20.82	25.49	17.62	2.67	
August 23.....	22.19	25.12	17.67	2.66	
September 20.....	22.21	25.13	17.68	2.66	

1/ Spot quotations do not include export tax.

PAKISTAN'S COTTON EXPORTS INCREASE
SLIGHTLY IN 1955-56

Cotton exports by Pakistan during the August-July 1955-56 season amounted to 716,000 bales (500 pounds gross), an increase of 13 percent over the low exports of 634,000 bales in 1954-55, but considerably below exports of all other years since partition except 1948-49. This trend of generally declining exports may be explained by sharp increases in consumption without corresponding increases in production. Total exports for the intervening years not shown in the table below were as follows: 1948-49, 677,000 bales; 1949-50, 860,000 bales; and 1950-51, 1,039,000 bales. Japan continued to be the principal destination of Pakistani cotton during 1955-56, taking about one-third of Pakistan's total exports of cotton. Other principal destinations were China, France, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom.

Pakistan's cotton production in the 1956-57 season is estimated at 1,400,000 bales or about equal to the 1955-56 production of 1,420,000 bales. Production in 1954-55 amounted to 1,300,000 bales. A continued but somewhat erratic upward trend has occurred in Pakistan's cotton production during the 9 years since partition, as evidenced in the following table:

PAKISTAN: Cotton acreage and production, crop years 1947-55

Crop beg. August 1	Acreage	Production <u>1/</u>
	1,000 acres	1,000 bales
1947.....	3,122	925
1948.....	2,800	832
1949.....	2,862	1,035
1950.....	3,011	1,225
1951.....	3,244	1,340
1952.....	3,467	1,525
1953.....	2,930	1,215
1954.....	3,185	1,300
1955.....	3,540	1,420

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Cotton consumption in Pakistan during 1955-56 amounted to 800,000 bales, including mill consumption of 760,000 bales and nonmill use of 40,000 bales. These figures represent a 23 percent increase over consumption of 650,000 bales in 1954-55.

Pakistan imported approximately 19,000 bales of United States cotton during 1955-56, marking the first use of United States cotton by Pakistani mills. After adjustment of the initial difficulties in handling this cotton (Upland type mostly 1-1/16 to 1-1/8 inches in staple length), the results were considered very satisfactory.

Pakistan's first year of textile and yarn exports also occurred in 1955-56. Approximately 5 million yards of fabric were exported, principally to the United Kingdom, and to African, and Far Eastern countries. Yarn exports of 52,600 bales (400 pounds each) were destined principally to Hong Kong with small quantities to Burma, Siam, and the United Kingdom.

Cotton stocks on August 1, 1956, were estimated at 170,000 bales, down considerably from the 260,000 bales held a year earlier.

PAKISTAN: Exports of cotton by countries of
destination; annual 1947, 1951-55

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1						
	1947 1/	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
	- - - - - 1,000 bales - - - - -						
United States.....	34	2/	9	12	12	22	
Belgium.....	109	2/	27	15	16	15	
Czechoslovakia.....	4	10	0	0	0	0	
France.....	54	60	80	72	47	82	
Germany, West.....	0	26	89	32	21	34	
Italy.....	72	59	52	62	32	31	
Netherlands.....	21	1	9	3	3	7	
Poland.....	0	52	0	0	0	0	
Spain.....	44	19	48	9	2/	0	
Sweden.....	12	2/	15	10	7	4	
United Kingdom.....	74	67	103	88	63	47	
U.S.S.R.....	114	0	63	0	0	0	
Yugoslavia.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	
China.....	73	301	97	153	101	127	
French India.....	0	6	10	19	3	0	
India.....	114	2/	0	0	0	0	
Hong Kong.....	44	66	101	97	71	51	
Japan.....	44	234	517	262	226	266	
Union of So. Africa..	0	1	1	2	2	3	
Australia.....	27	8	26	35	23	20	
Other countries.....	9	9	3/ 26	4/ 22	7	7	
Total.....	850	919	1,273	893	634	716	

1/ August 15 to July 31, partition from India effective August 14, 1947.

2/ Less than 500 bales.

3/ Includes Syria 11 and Austria 6.

4/ Includes Syria and Bulgaria 5 each.

Source: Government of Pakistan - Ministry of Commerce and Education;
Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives
abroad.

A general decline in Pakistan's cotton prices at Karachi has occurred since May 1956, and a change in the export taxes on August 22, 1956, had the effect of further price reductions for the American-type cottons and an increase in prices for Desi cottons. Recent quotations have been as follows:

PAKISTAN: Cotton spot quotations in Karachi on specified dates

Variety	1956				
	May 24	June 28	July 26	Aug. 23	Sept. 20
	U. S. cents per pound <u>1</u> /-----				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	23.86	21.57	20.26	20.58	20.13
289F Sind, SG, Fine	24.82	22.08	20.32	20.58	20.38
289F Sind, RG, Fine	23.67	21.57	19.94	20.07	19.87
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	26.29	25.01	22.81	22.87	21.92
Sind Desi, Fine	25.78	26.29	25.78	24.50	24.50
Punjab Desi, Fine.....	24.25	24.88	23.86	22.46	22.46

1/ Excludes export taxes up to August 22, 1956, as follows: 3.21 U.S. cents per pound for Desi, 7.23 cents for all other cottons; after August 22, 1956, 4.29 cents per pound for Desi, 6.16 cents for all other cottons.

COFFEE PRODUCTION RISES IN
FRENCH WEST AFRICA

The production of coffee in French West Africa for 1956-57 will be between 2.1 and 2.2 million bags, according to latest reports from that area. Of the total anticipated production, the Ivory Coast should produce between 1.9 and 2.0 million bags and French Guinea about 167,000 bags of clean coffee.

Comparable figures for the 1955-56 season just completed are 2.0 million bags total production, of which the Ivory Coast produced more than 1.8 million bags. The quantity exported and under the control of the Abidjan Port for the period September 1, 1955 to September 1, 1956 was 1.7 million bags.

COFFEE PRODUCTION STABLE
IN RIO MUNI

The total coffee production for Rio Muni (Spanish Guinea) in 1955-56 was 50,000 bags, compared with 52,818 bags in 1954-55. The total 1955-56 production included equal quantities of Robusta and Liberica coffees. The production of coffee in Spanish Guinea will not expand much and should remain between 50,000 - 66,700 bags for the next few years.

WORLD PRODUCTION OF SUGAR
BEETS CONTINUES TO RISE

World sugar beet production continues to rise. The 1956 crop is expected to be 129.3 million tons, which is 4.5 percent larger than the final 1955 estimate. The 1955 production estimate is 123.7 million tons, an increase of 3.7 percent above the preliminary estimate of a year ago. This resulted from a 6 percent increase in Western Europe and a 3.3 percent increase in U.S.S.R.

North America's acreage increased from 822 thousand acres to 867 thousand in 1956, and production rose from 13,209 to 13,931 thousand tons. The increase was in the United States, as Canada reduced area in sugar beets by 4,000 acres.

EUROPE: The preliminary estimate of sugar beets for Western Europe during 1956 is 51.6 million tons from 3.8 million acres. The indicated 1956 yield was 13.57 tons per acre compared with the 1955 yield of 13.83 tons. The preliminary estimates made in September have been below the final estimates in 1954 and 1955. It is conceivable therefore that the final production may be above those now reported.

Weather plays an important part in the growth and maturity of the sugar beet as, of course, it does in all crops. This year Northern Europe including the United Kingdom had a cold rainy summer, while in Southern Europe weather was quite variable including cold and rainy days as well as warm ones. The climatic conditions of the fall months are no less important and much depends on the weather during the harvesting months.

U.S.S.R.: It has been reported that the Soviet Union has planted about 640 thousand acres more in sugar beets during 1956, which increases its acreage to 4,990 thousand acres. Production from this acreage will probably be 35 million tons of beets.

Other countries show an increase in 1956 acreage of nearly 100 thousand acres yielding 4,000 thousand tons of beets. While little information is available, it has been reported that Afghanistan will be producing sugar beets in the near future in sufficient quantity to effect a reduction in yearly imports of sugar.

SUGAR BEETS: Acreage and production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954-56

Continent and country	Acreage 1/			Production		
	Average	1954	1955	Average	1954	1955
	1935-39	1945-49	1955	1935-39	1945-49	1955
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 Sh. tons	1,000 Sh. tons	1,000 Sh. tons
NORTH AMERICA						
Canada.....	50	66	82	504	690	981
United States.....	827	755	740	9,595	10,260	12,228
Total.....	877	821	822	10,099	10,950	13,209
EUROPE						
Austria.....	102	49	111	1,202	322	1,521
Belgium.....	124	119	142	1,603	1,626	2,476
Denmark.....	98	117	139	1,657	1,790	2,083
Finland.....	10	13	39	96	116	273
France.....	791	715	934	9,976	7,942	12,346
Germany, Western.....	335	355	652	4,900	4,010	9,656
Ireland.....	55	70	55	590	672	720
Italy.....	312	231	553	3,422	2,640	9,810
Netherlands.....	106	111	165	1,760	1,888	3,400
Spain.....	161	188	235	1,245	1,586	2,200
Sweden.....	128	126	130	2,089	1,909	1,797
Switzerland.....	6	14	13	91	206	230
United Kingdom.....	344	416	404	4,401	5,065	5,103
Yugoslavia.....	77	159	172	658	1,041	1,521
Total Western Europe.....	2,649	2,683	3,813	32,684	30,149	53,141
Total Eastern Europe 5/.....	1,520	1,750	2,653	18,402	13,331	23,189
Total Europe.....	4,169	4,433	6,466	51,086	43,480	76,330
U.S.S.R. 6/	3,096	2,492	4,350	19,982	12,830	31,000
OTHER COUNTRIES						
Iran 5/.....	35	63	113	144	265	591
Japan.....	42	34	41	310	105	432
Turkey 5/.....	63	115	234	434	724	1,914
Uruguay 5/.....	3	6	19	16	20	270
Total.....	143	218	407	904	1,114	3,207
Grand total.....	8,285	7,964	12,068	86,071	68,374	123,746

1/ Area estimates are for harvested areas unless otherwise stated. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Includes 10 thousand acres and 132 thousand short tons in 1954; 4 thousand acres and 60 thousand short tons in 1955; 4 thousand acres and 30 thousand short tons in 1956 which were grown in Denmark but processed in Sweden. 4/ Topped beets. 5/ In some Eastern European countries the harvested beets are for sugar only. 6/ Processed beets.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

COFFEE PRODUCTION EXPANDS IN SIERRA LEONE

According to latest reports from Sierra Leone, British West Africa total coffee production for 1956-57 is forecast at 44,030 bags of 60 kilos. This compares with an estimated 40,640 bags in 1955-56 and 40,470 bags in 1954-55. Most of the production is Robusta coffee and all new planting is of this variety. Liberica production does not exceed 1,700 bags per year.

Local consumption of coffee in Sierra Leone is believed to be 6,770 bags or more per year and is still increasing. Exportable surplus after domestic requirements is forecast at 37,260 bags for 1956-57, compared with 35,390 bags in 1955-56. The quality of exports should be greatly improved beginning with the 1956-57 crop, as it is now unlawful in Sierra Leone to export coffee of inferior grades.

EGYPT'S 1956-57 COTTON CROP EQUALS LAST YEAR'S

The first official estimate of Egypt's 1956-57 cotton production is for a crop of 1,523,000 bales (500 pounds gross), approximately equal to the 1955-56 crop of 1,535,000 bales. Private estimates for the 1956-57 crop are from 100,000 to 200,000 bales higher than this official estimate. Comparison of the Government's first estimate for the new crop with the final outturn for last year is as follows:

EGYPT: Cotton production by staple length and variety,
1956-57 compared with 1955-56

(Thousand bales of 500 pounds gross)			
Staple length and variety	First estimate 1956-57	Final estimate 1955-56	
Extra long staple, over 1-3/8":			
Karnak and Menoufi.....	640	550	
Medium long staple, over 1-1/4":			
Giza and Dendera.....	303	289	
Long staple, over 1-1/8":			
Ashmouni.....	543	658	
Subtotal.....	1,486	1,497	
Scarto.....	37	38	
Total.....	1,523	1,535	

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